

A  
WORTHY SPEECH,  
Spoken in the Honourable House of  
COMMONS:

By Sir BENJAMIN RUDYARD.

This present July, 1642.

*Master Speaker,*

**I**N the Way We are, we have gone as far as Words can carrie us : We have Voted our own Rights, and the Kings Duty : No doubt there is a Relative Duty between a King and Subjects ; Obedience from a Subject to a King, Protection from a King to His People. The present unhappy distance between His Majestie and the Parliament, makes the Whole Kingdome stand amazed, in a fearefull expectation of dismall Calamities to fall upon it : It deeply and conscionably concerns this House to compose and settle these threatening ruining distractions. *Master Speaker*, I am touch'd, I am pierc't with an Apprehension of the Honour of the House, and successe of this Parliament. The best way to give a stop to these desperate imminent mischiefs is, To make a faire way for the Kings return hither ; It will likewise give best satisfaction to the People, and will be our best Justification. *Master Speaker*, That we may the better consider the condition we are now in, let us set our selves three Years back : If any Man then, could have credibly told us, That within three Yeares the Queen should be gone out of England into the Low-Countries, for any cause whatsoever ; The King shall remove from His Parliament, from London to York, declaring himselfe not to be safe here. That there shall be a totall Rebellion in Ireland, Such discords and distempers both in Church and State here, as now we finde ; certainly we should have trembled at the thought of it : Wherefore it is fit we should be sensible now we are in it.

On the other side, if any man then, could have credibly told us, That within three Years Ye shall have a Parliament, it would have been good News ; That Ship-monie shall be taken away by an Act of Parliament, the Reasons and Grounds of it so rooted out, as that neither it, nor any thing like it, can ever grow up again ; That Monopolies, The High-Commission Court, the Starre-Chamber, The Bishops Votes shall be taken away, The Councell Table regulated and restrained, The Forrests bounded and limited, That yee shall have a *Trienniall Parliament* ; and more then that, *A Perpetuall Parliament*, vvhich none shall have power to dissolve vvithout your selves, vve should have thought this a Dream of Happinesse ; Yet novv vve are in the reall possession of it, vve do not enjoy it, although His Majestie hath promised and published He vvill make all this good to us : We stand chiefly upon further securitie ; vvhereas the very having of these things, is a convenient, fair securitie, mutually securing one another : there is more securitie offered, even in this last answer of the Kings, By removing the personall Votes of Popish Lords, By the Better Education of Papists Children, By supplying the defects of Laws against Recusants, besides what else may be enlarged and improved by a select Committee of Both Houses, named for that purpose. Wherefore, Sir, let us beware we do not contend for such a hazardous unsafe securitie, as may endanger the losse of what we have already ; let us not think we have nothing, because vve have not all vve desire ; and though vve had, yet vve cannot make a Mathematicall securitie ; All humane Caution is Susceptible of corruption and failing ; Gods providence will not be bound, successe must be His : He that observes the Wind and Rain, shall neither Sovv nor Reape ; if he do nothing till he can secure the Weather, he will have but an ill Harvest.

*M. Speaker*, It novv behoves us to call up all the Wisedome vve have about us, for vve are at the very brink of Combustion and confusion : If Blood once begin to touch Blood, vve shall presently fall into a certain miserie, and must attend an uncertain successe ; God knowvs vvhen, and God knowvs vvhat. Every Man here is bound in Conscience to employ his uttermost endeavours to prevent the effusion of blood ; Blood is a crying sin, it pollutes a Land ; let us save our Liberties and our Estates, as we may save our Souls too. Now I have clearly delivered mine own conscience, I leave every Man freely to his.